1865 - 1965

Fidelity National Bank salutes the centennial observance of the signing of the "Peace Treaty" at Appomattox, while celebrating our own hundredth anniversary year* of service to the people of Central Virginia.

* Lynchburg National Bank, which became a part of Fidelity National Bank in 1962, began its operations in August, 1865. The Bank of Appomattox, founded in 1901 as the first chartered bank in Appomattox, continues to serve the people of the area today as an office of Fidelity National Bank.

We Invite You To Share Another 100 Years Of Banking With Central Virginia's Own Full-Service Bank

FIDELITY
NATIONAL BANK
APPOMATTOX

Photo by Phil Pittman—Courtesy Town Chamber of Commerce

SURRENDER ROOM in the home of Wilmer McLean at Appomattox Court House is as it looks today after restoration by the National Park Service. Gen. Grant sat at the oval table in the foreground, made a rough draft of the surrender terms, which were accepted by Gen. Lee, who sat at the marble-top table.

WILMER McLEAN could look out from his front porch upon the rear of Meek's General Store; the Court House and at extreme right the Jail

Photo by Phil Pittman—Courtesy Town Chamber of Commerce

General Grant "Rested" at "Clifton" Received Lee Note

By HERBERT CLARENCE BRADSHAW

"Then was witnessed one of the most inspiring scenes of the campaign. Ragged, starving men, many of them sick and wounded, threw their caps and plumes high in the air, and with tears streaming down their cheeks, embraced each other and wept for joy."

—Col. Horace Porter

When the Army of Northern Virginia began withdrawing from the badgered Confederate capital at Petersburg, it was a pathetic throng that poured out in an even columns which were pushing along the Richmond and Lynchburg Stage Road.

A mile before noon on April 7, 1865, General Grant and his staff rode into the Randolph House, the village hotel, dismounted and entered the dining room on the hotel's front piazza.

Not long after headquarters had been established in the hotel, Porter found Colonel Horace Porter, a member of Grant's staff, who had been sent ahead to confer with the enemy commander. Porter came in that Crook was fighting large bodies of the enemy back, and that Crook was being driven back, and that the Confederates were trying to get around his flank. Porter found Grant and Meade in the dining room, and he considered it his duty to report the information to them. He did not like the looks of things. He said that for every man killed and wounded in battle, ten died later in the hospitals. He said he believed that Lee would become a guerrilla leader after the surrender and would be little better than a murderer.

Effusion of Blood

It was perhaps this statement, combined indirectly from the captured Confederate dispatches, that prompted Grant to write the first of his notes to General Lee. Grant decided to remain in Farmville for the night and established his headquarters in the front room of the Randolph House. General Grant was lodged in the room at the front of the house, formerly of the regular army, a native of Virginia and a veteran of the Mexican War. Many of the Union prisoners, had told General Grant that Ewell was just ahead of them, and that Ewell was just when they crossed the James River, and he considered it his duty to capture the bridges across the river, while they still had a right to claim concessions, adding that now they would be destroyed, and that Lee would be little better than a murderer. He said that for every man killed in battle, ten died later in the hospitals. He said he believed